



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600

January 5, 2016

ALTSA: NH #2016-001
S&C 16-05-ALL: INFECTION CONTROL PILOT PROJECT

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

Recently, the Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued S&C Memo 16-05-ALL indicating CMS has begun a three year pilot project to improve assessment of infection control and prevention regulations in nursing homes, hospitals, and during transitions of care.

During this pilot, specialized surveys will be conducted focusing on infection control. All pilot surveys will be educational surveys (no citations will be issued) and will be conducted by a national contractor. New surveyor tools and processes will be developed and tested, focusing on existing regulations as well as recommended practices (such as those for antibiotic stewardship and transitions of care). Ten pilot surveys to be conducted in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 will occur in nursing homes. Surveys in FY17 and FY18 will be conducted in nursing homes and hospitals.

Further information regarding this pilot project can be found in the S&C memo 16-05-All: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-16-05.pdf>

Thank you again for your continued commitment to the health and safety of nursing home residents. If you have any questions, please contact your local Field Manager.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services

"Transforming Lives"